

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 06413 181144Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 OES-06 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03  
H-01 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 MCT-01  
EB-08 TRSE-00 COME-00 NSF-01 SSO-00 INRE-00  
NSCE-00 DODE-00 SSM-03 PM-04 /082 W  
-----181153Z 121114 /20

O 181102Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3954  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: EG IS JO CGEN  
SUBJ: DETAINING OF U.S. OWNED RESEARCH VESSEL, ATLANTIS THE  
SECOND

REF: CAIRO 6394

1. SITUATION REGARDING ATLANTIS CONTINUES UNRESOLVED  
AS OF THIS MORNING. AT THIS POINT, WE HAVE TWO CON-  
FLICTING STORIES CONCERNING STATUS OF VESSEL:  
(A) ELDER TELEPHONED EMBOFF MORNING OF APRIL 18 ADVISING  
HE SPENT 7 HOURS OF LONG DISCUSSIONS WITH EGYPTIAN  
OFFICIALS AT SUEZ IMMIGRATION OFFICE, WHICH HOPEFULLY  
RESULTED IN PERMITTING 4 OF THE 14 TO BE GIVEN SHORE  
PASSES TO COORDINATE SHIP'S EFFORTS AND ELDER BELIEVED  
AUTHORITIES HAD GRANTED PERMISSION TO 10 REMAINING  
PASSENGERS TO BOARD VESSEL. ACCORDING TO ELDER, IN  
ADDITION TO IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES, INTERNAL SECURITY,  
THE ARMY AND THE SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY INVOLVED IN THE SITUATION.  
ELDER ALSO RELATED THAT 10 ADDITIONAL PASSENGERS  
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PRESENTLY ON BOARD VESSEL DESIRE TO DEBARK IN SUEZ AND  
ELDER BELIEVED EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES WILL PERMIT THIS  
ACTION.  
(B) NAVAL ATTACHE CONTACTED YOUSSEF ASSEM, SCA PUBLIC  
RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE IN CAIRO, WHO CLAIMED THAT  
PRESENT REASON FOR SHIP'S DELAY IS FACT THAT SHIP HAS  
NOT PAID FEES TO TRANSIT CANAL. FEE REQUIREMENT IS

STANDARD PROCEDURE AND WOULD BE LEGITIMATE REASON FOR DELAY. NAVAL ATTACHE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED BY MICHELE NAIM, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE DAMANDHOUR SHIPPING AGENCY IN SUEZ, THAT SHIP WAS NOT RPT NOT DETAINED FOR AN ELAT PORT VISIT, BUT BECUASE SHIP HAS NOT RPT NOT PAID CANAL TRANSIT FEES. NAIM ALSO CLAIMED PERSONNEL WILL BE PERMITTED TO EMBARK AND DISEMBARK SHIP AND THAT SHIP'S LOG WILL BE RETURNED TO VESSEL.

2. COMMENT: UP TO NOW ALL OF OUR ACCOUNTS ARE SECOND HAND. WE HAVE YET TO HEAR FROM SHIP'S MASTER REGARDING SITUATION AND ARE TRYING TO CONTACT HIM TO ASCERTAIN FACTS. WE HAVE TELEPHONE IAEA TEAM IN SUEZ REQUESTING THEY PASS MESSAGE TO SHIP'S MASTER THAT HE CONTACT EMBASSY IMMEDIATELY. IT IS POSSIBLE ELDER'S STORY IS CORRECT AND EGYPTIAN BUREAUCRATS ARE USING CANAL FEES EXCUSE AS EASY MEANS TO DELAY TRANSIT UNTIL HIGHER AUTHORITIES GIVE CLEARANCES TO TRANSIT CANAL. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE VESSEL HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO PAY TRANSIT FEES. WE SIMPLY DO NOT HAVE WHOLE STORY. UNDP OFFICE IN CAIRO HAS CONTACTED EMBASSY QUESTIONING SITUATION. ACCORDING TO UNDP, IAEA EMPLOYEE, SNYDER, MEMBER OF TEAM ATTEMPTING TO BOARD VESSEL IN SUEZ, TELEPHONED THEM REQUESTING THEIR ASSISTANCE. WILL REPORT FURTHER WHEN WE CAN PROVIDE CLEARER VIEW. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 CAIRO 6394  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2779365  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DETAINING OF U.S. OWNED RESEARCH VESSEL, ATLANTIS THE SECOND  
**TAGS:** CGEN, EG, IS, JO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/d7c7cba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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